

June 14, 2015

Burlington City Council

**Re: Staff Report Recommending Endorsement of the State of the Environment Report for Burlington**

BurlingtonGreen welcomes the publication of the fifth State of the Environment Report undertaken by the Sustainable Development Committee. This document provides Council and our community with a wealth of data and information specifically relevant to our city's environmental health and key recommendations for the advancement of that health.

This edition of the SOER is particularly timely in supporting the City's deliberations and direction in the Official Plan Review, the Transportation Master Plan, the Strategic Plan and the city's input to the provincial review of the Greenbelt and Places to Grow policies.

As well, several of the recommendations of SOER V are directly linked to three of the five recommendations of BurlingtonGreen's Greenprint for the Future, specifically the need to:

- "think beyond the car" in transportation policy
- Declare Burlington a Food and Water First community
- Protect the urban canopy on private lands

This report will help us all to advance the health and vibrancy of our community and we ask every Councillor and the Mayor to endorse SOER V and keep its findings close at hand so as to be guided by its recommendations going forward.

Best regards,



Paul Haskins,

President, BurlingtonGreen